

## **IC 4-4-29**

### **Chapter 29. Indiana Tourism Council**

#### **IC 4-4-29-0.5**

##### **"Agritourism" defined**

Sec. 0.5. As used in this chapter, "agritourism" means the act of visiting a working farm or any agricultural, horticultural, or agribusiness operation for purposes of enjoyment, education, or active involvement in the activities of the farm or operation.

*As added by P.L.74-2004, SEC.1.*

#### **IC 4-4-29-1**

##### **"Council" defined**

Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "council" refers to the tourism council established by section 3 of this chapter.

*As added by P.L.16-1997, SEC.1.*

#### **IC 4-4-29-2**

##### **"Department" defined**

Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "department" refers to the Indiana department of commerce.

*As added by P.L.16-1997, SEC.1.*

#### **IC 4-4-29-3**

##### **Establishment**

Sec. 3. The Indiana tourism council is established.

*As added by P.L.16-1997, SEC.1.*

#### **IC 4-4-29-4**

##### **Members**

Sec. 4. The council consists of the following members:

- (1) The lieutenant governor.
- (2) Two (2) members of the senate, who may not be members of the same political party, appointed by the president pro tempore of the senate for a term of one (1) year.
- (3) Two (2) members of the house of representatives, who may not be members of the same political party, appointed by the speaker of the house for a term of one (1) year.
- (4) Six (6) regional tourism industry representatives, appointed by the respective tourism regions for a term of one (1) year.
- (5) Twelve (12) representatives of the private sector, appointed by the governor for a term of two (2) years. One (1) representative must own or operate an agritourism business.
- (6) The executive director of the Indiana division of tourism.
- (7) The executive director of the Indiana department of transportation.
- (8) The executive director of the department of natural resources.
- (9) A member appointed by the Indiana Hotel and Motel Association, for a term of one (1) year.

(10) A member appointed by the Restaurant and Hospitality Association of Indiana, for a term of one (1) year.

(11) A member appointed by the Association of Indiana Convention and Visitor Bureaus, for a term of one (1) year.

(12) A member appointed by the Council of Indiana Attractions, for a term of one (1) year.

(13) A member appointed by the Indiana Gaming Association, for a term of one (1) year.

(14) A member appointed by the Recreation Vehicle Indiana Council, for a term of one (1) year.

(15) A member appointed by the Indiana Bed and Breakfast Association, for a term of one (1) year.

(16) A member appointed by the Indiana State Festival Association, for a term of one (1) year.

(17) A member who lives in a rural community and is interested in agritourism, appointed by the Indiana rural development council, for a term of one (1) year.

*As added by P.L.16-1997, SEC.1. Amended by P.L.74-2004, SEC.2.*

#### **IC 4-4-29-5**

##### **Quorum; voting; chair; procedures; compensation; expenses**

Sec. 5. (a) Seventeen (17) members of the council constitute a quorum.

(b) The affirmative votes of a majority of the members of the council are required for the council to take action.

(c) The lieutenant governor shall serve as chair of the council.

(d) The council shall adopt written procedures to govern the transaction of business by the council.

(e) Each member of the council who is not a state employee is not entitled to the minimum salary per diem provided by IC 4-10-11-2.1(b). The member is also not entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties.

(f) Each member of the council who is a state employee but who is not a member of the general assembly is not entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties.

*As added by P.L.16-1997, SEC.1.*

#### **IC 4-4-29-6**

##### **Powers and duties**

Sec. 6. The council shall do the following:

(1) Assist in developing goals and objectives for the tourism division of the department, including the following:

(A) Development of Indiana's agricultural and horticultural base.

(B) Job creation and retention in rural Indiana.

(C) Development of agritourism opportunities to provide additional income for Indiana's agricultural and horticultural workers.

- (D) Product development, including the creation of outlets for the sale of crafts, foods, and other items produced in Indiana.
  - (E) Preservation and development of historic rural resources in Indiana.
  - (F) Local, national, and international direct marketing to increase revenue and enhance the viability of agricultural, horticultural, and agribusiness operations in Indiana.
  - (G) Public education about the impact of agriculture and horticulture on a community's quality of life.
  - (H) Capital and business assistance for agricultural, horticultural, and agribusiness workers to increase the viability, sustainability, and growth of agritourism businesses and services in Indiana.
- (2) Establish advisory groups to make recommendations to the department on tourism research, development, and marketing.
  - (3) Analyze the results and effectiveness of grants made by the department.
  - (4) Build commitment and unity among tourism industry groups.
  - (5) Create a forum for sharing talent, resources, and ideas regarding tourism.
  - (6) Encourage public and private participation necessary for the promotion of tourism.
  - (7) Promote agritourism in Indiana to national and international visitors.
  - (8) Sustain the viability and growth of the agritourism industry in Indiana.
  - (9) Establish and promote an Internet web site that is linked to the computer gateway administered by the intelenet commission under IC 5-21-2 and known as accessIndiana.
  - (10) Create regional agritourism development plans for the twelve (12) regional offices of the department.
  - (11) Coordinate efforts to educate the public about agritourism and Indiana's agricultural heritage and history.
  - (12) Provide information concerning funding opportunities, including grants, loans, and partnerships, to persons who are interested in starting an agritourism business or who operate an agritourism business.
  - (13) Make recommendations to the department and the general assembly regarding any matter involving agritourism. Recommendations to the general assembly under this subdivision must be reported in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.
  - (14) Generate economic vitality and tourism activity for Indiana.
  - (15) Position Indiana as the recognized agritourism center of the nation.
  - (16) Make recommendations to the department regarding any matter involving tourism.

*As added by P.L.16-1997, SEC.1. Amended by P.L.74-2004, SEC.3.*

**IC 4-4-29-7**

**Receipt and expenditure of money**

Sec. 7. The council may receive funds from any source and may expend funds for any activities necessary, convenient, or expedient to carry out the council's purposes.

*As added by P.L.16-1997, SEC.1.*

**IC 4-4-29-8**

**Duties of department**

Sec. 8. The department shall provide support and administrative services to the council.

*As added by P.L.16-1997, SEC.1.*

**IC 4-4-29-9**

**Annual report**

Sec. 9. The council shall submit an annual report to the governor and to the general assembly on or before the first day of November each year. A report submitted under this section to the general assembly must be in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.

*As added by P.L.16-1997, SEC.1. Amended by P.L.28-2004, SEC.29.*